CLOSED SHELF

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The People's Korea

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KOREAN PEOPLE, NOT U. S. IMPERIALISTS, ARE MASTERS OF KOREA!

—— South Korea Seethes With Popular Anger Over Economic Accord

Since the humiliating and plundering "'ROK'-U. S. Economic and Technical Agreement" was concluded on Feb. 8, all the Korean people have been seething with irresistible anger. Utterly dismayed at this situation, the U. S. imperialists and the Chang Myun clique are resorting to foxy methods to intimidate and suppress the people. However, the Korean people will never tolerate any criminal acts of alien invaders and their lackeys. They are now resolutely fighting for freedom, democracy and peaceful unification of their fatherland against occupation and colonial rule by the U. S. imperialists.

S. Korean "National Assembly" Ratifies Economic Accord With Proviso

The "National Assembly" of South Korea ratified the "'ROK'-U. S. Economic and Technical Agreement" at a plenary session on the morning of Feb. 28, Radio Seoul said on Feb. 28.

In ratifying the "agreement," the "Assembly" put a three-point rider concerning the interpretation of the "agreement."

The three-point rider is:

1. No part of the "agreement" should be interpreted in such a way as would contradict the spirit of the "note of Feb. 26 concerning high respect for the sovereignty of Republic of Korea" sent by U.S. Ambassador McConaughy.

2. The number of public officials to be given "diplomatic privileges" should be limited through negotiations between the two governments.

3. "The clause concerning tax exemption" should be implemented only through mutual agreement between the two governments.

Ugly Character Of Colonial Rulers Brought To Light

U. S. Ambassador to Seoul Walter P. McConaughy, known as "governor general" of South Korea, asserted in his statement of Feb. 16 that the U. S. had the undoubted right to control and supervise the South Korean economy in accordance with the provisions of the agreement.

Meanwhile, the "New York World Telegram and Sun," a White-House mouthpiece, said that the South Korean people are so "poor in their memory" as to assert groundlessly that U. S. control over South Korea is an "infringement of sovereignty."

The U. S. imperialists are trying to justify their right to supervise the South Korean economy on grounds that 52 per cent of the budget of the puppet government consists of U. S. "aid" funds. What a shameless assertion it is! It is a well known fact that the so-called U. S. "aid" funds are nothing but colonial superprofits squeezed by the U. S. imperialists from the South Korean people by forcing U. S. surplus goods upon them. It is also known to all that U. S. "aid" funds have been used only for the military rule over South Korea and for preparing for a new war and that not a single penny has ever been spent to promote the welfare of the people.

What we cannot put up with most is the fact that the U. S. imperialists are shamelessly declaring that strengthening of control and supervision over the South Korean economy is aimed at uprooting the cause of such popular uprisings as that of last April. What nonsense! The April popular uprising was not caused by laxity in supervision by the U. S. imperialists over the use of "aid" funds. No, absolutely not. On the contrary, it was a heroic struggle of the South Korean people for new politics and a new life, a struggle to find a way out of the blind alley of overall economic catastrophe, destruction of the people's life and the completely rightless state of the people caused by U. S. "aid" itself, which the U. S. imperialists have been utilizing to subordinate and plunder South Korea.

The South Korean people know well what the "'ROK'-U. S. Economic and Technical Agreement" will bring on them through their actual experiences.

Chang Myun Clique Set To Suppress Movement Against Economic Accord

The Chang Myun puppet regime on Feb. 16 held a "conference of four Secretaries concerned with public peace" to discuss measures to control opposition movement against the agreement, according to a Radio Seoul broadcast of Feb. 17. General measures to restore "public peace and order" were also discussed at the meeting.

Chung Heun Ju, Chief Cabinet Secretary of the South Korean authorities, said after the conference:

"The movement against the agreement has already invaded the House. In view of growing signs of anti-American sentiment, the government has decided to take a resolute counter-plan.

"It is regrettable that the Socialist Popular Party and other 'progressive' political parties and social organizations are inciting the public for a nation-wide movement against the agreement. There is a danger of their being utilized by North Korea in pushing its anti-American propaganda."

Anti-Accord Body Publishes Struggle Declaration

The Joint Struggle Committee against the Economic Agreement, formed on Feb. 14 of 17 political parties and social organizations, published on Feb. 18 a struggle declaration against the "'ROK'-U. S. Economic and Technical Agreement," according to reports from Seoul.

The declaration pointed out that the agreement would further strengthen the subordination of the South Korean economy to the U. S., thereby enabling the U. S. imperialists to interfere more freely and openly in the internal affairs of South Korea. Under the agreement aimed at prolonging the division of the country and the nation, starvation and poverty would stalk unchecked through the land, it stressed.

The declaration concluded that the Joint Struggle Committee would march forward with indomitable determination in the forefront of various sections of the South Korean people against the agreement, overcoming intimidations and suppression by the U. S. imperialists and their puppets.

Seoul Citizens, Too

Seoul Citizens' Rally Against 'ROK'-U. S. Economic Agreement was held at the square in front of the municipal office on the morning of Feb. 24, according to a "Sege Tongshin" report from Seoul. About 600 citizens attended the rally sponsored by the "Joint Struggle Committee Against 'ROK'-U. S. Economic Agreement."

Speakers severely denounced the "'ROK'-U. S. Economic and Technical Agreement" as aimed at strengthening political, economic and military control over South Korea by the U. S. imperialists. They called upon the participants to make efforts to win economic independence, instead of depending on foreign powers.

Taegu Students Rally Against Economic Accord

A large mass meeting of students was held in Taegu on Feb. 28, the first anniversary of the Taegu Students' Demonstration, a Seoul broadcast reported on Feb. 28. Attending the meeting were some 40,000 students from senior and junior high schools in the city.

After the meeting, the participants held a street demonstration. They marched through the bustling streets, carrying placards reading, "Repeal the humiliating 'ROK'-U. S. Economic Agreement," "Do not dishonor the spirit of the Feb. 8 Students' Demonstration."

The meeting was held in commemoration of the Students' Demonstration which sparked the April people's uprising of last year.

Earlier, on Feb. 21, around 200 university students in Seoul demonstrated in front of the American Embassy, denouncing the "'ROK'-U. S. Economic and Technical Agreement."

DPRK Paper Urges United Action Against Accord, For Unification

Mass meetings supporting the struggle of the South Korean people against the "'ROK'-U. S. Economic and Technical Agreement" are widely being held at factories, enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, schools and so forth in the northern part of the Republic, according to the recent reports from Pyongyang.

Rodong Shinmun, organ of the Korean Workers' Party, said on Feb. 23 that the struggle of the South Korean people was an expression of public wrath against the U. S. imperialist aggressors who have turned South Korea into a prison where misery, poverty and hunger reign, according to a report from Pyongyang.

The flare-up of anger of the South Korean people at the U. S. imperialist policy of aggression and fascistic rule by their puppets led finally to the downfall of the Syngman Rhee regime. They are continuously expanding the struggle, demanding withdrawal of the U. S. forces from South Korea and peaceful unification of the fatherland, the paper said.

It warned, "the U. S. imperialists are today making frantic efforts to continue the occupation of South Korea and to strengthen further the colonialist rule and spoliation of South Korea."

The paper said that this was clear in the light of the following recent developments:

The drastic raise in the exchange rate of the huan to the dollar through repeated revisions, conclusion of the "'ROK'-U. S. Economic and Technical Agreement," attempts on the part of Japanese monopoly capital to make economic inroads into South Korea under the aegis of U. S. imperialism, and so forth.

The paper called on the South Korean people to develop more vigorous struggles to smash the agreement, which will lead to a further subjugation of and bring a catastrophe on South Korea.

It also appealed to the South Korean people for united endeavors for withdrawal of the U. S. armed forces and for the realization of peaceful unification and South-North economic and cultural exchange.

U. S. COLONIAL RULE OVER S. KOREA MUST BE PUT AN END TO

Acting as if they were masters of South Korea, the U. S. imperialists are strengthening colonial rule over South Korea. As the economic crisis deepens and the difficulties of living grow, the South Korean people are resolutely rising for democratic rights and a better life, demanding an end to U. S. colonial rule over South Korea.

Economic Crisis Deepens In South Korea

The economic crisis of South Korea is deepening rapidly with every passing day. The "Saneup Kyongje Shinmun" (Industrial and Economic News) said that it was impossible for South Korea to escape from the threatening economic catastrophe.

The economic prospect of South Korea is all the darker for the adverse effects on all areas of people's living, caused by the following developments:

The raising of the exchange rate through two revisions carried out since the beginning of this year, drastic raises in railway rates, soaring prices of cigarettes, oils and many other daily necessities.

The skyrocketing prices have caused a raise in the production cost of manufactured goods, with the result that enterprisers are plagued by the difficulties of obtaining funds and finding markets for their products.

In short, the South Korean people have never suffered from such difficulties of living as they are experiencing today.

A professor of Koryo University in Seoul said in a radio forum that, "We see nothing but darkness ahead. We are heading for an abysm. There is no hope for our future," while "Tongyang Tongshin" said that the Chang Myun Government is faced with the most serious situation since its inauguration.

According to official data, military and police spending comprises a larger portion of this fiscal year's budget, while economic expenditures account for only 21 per cent of the total budget. About 75 per cent of these expenditures, however, are subsidies to the coal, power and other industries, which are closely related to the production of military supplies.

On the other hand, the tax burden on the South Korean people is increased by 12,800 million huan as compared with that for last fiscal year,and the proportion of indirect tax collections in the revenue has been drastically increased.

These facts demonstrate that the South Korean economy will not be saved from the impending collapse unless the reactionary Chang Myun regime, bolstered by the U.S. imperialists, is overthrown. With this recognition, ever growing sections of the South Korean people are now rising in resolute struggles, demanding withdrawal of the U.S. forces from their country, peaceful unification of the whole of Korea and increased contact between South and North.

S. Korean Fishermen Asking For Relief

About half of the 800,000 South Korean fishermen are now starving owing to lack of food, "Kyungje Tongshin" reported on Feb. 21 from Seoul. An immediate relief action is urgently required.

Main fishing ports and grounds have been turned into training areas for the U.S. Navy. As a result, the haul per fishing villager in South Korea is only 10 per cent of that in North Korea.

According to the report, South Korean fishermen are hard-pressed for money, their debts averaging 100,000 huan per household. They are asking for relief rice. But the health and welfare authorities of the puppet government have so far done nothing to save them.

Meanwhile, "Tongyang Tongshin" reported that 5,860 laver-gatherers in Hadong-Eup in South Kyongsang Province have completely run out of food.

According to "Hapdong Tongshin," fishermen on Ulrung Island are also starving and 73,800 needy fishermen on the East Coast in Kangwon Province are also suffering from food shortage.

"Chonnam-Ilbo" reports that 80 per cent of the fishermen in Samsan-Myun in South Cholla Province are on the verge of starvation.

Farmers Starving In South Korean Districts

About 100,000 farming households in South Cholla Province were short on food supplies as of Jan. 28, reports a South Korean newspaper. This means that one-third of all the farming households there are on the verge of starvation. This South Cholla Province, once called Korea's granary, is now hit by a severe famine.

"Kyonghyang Shinmun" of Feb. 4 reported that in South Chungchong Province families lacking food totaled about 100, 000 as of the end of January. This means that most of the farming families there are suffering from food shortage.

1,200 Died By Roadside In Seoul

Pusan citizens without food supplies amounted to 182,260 as of Feb. 15, according to a Pusan report. Among these needy persons, 69,760 (14,058 families) are on the verge of starvation, the report said.

Meanwhile, approximately 1, 200 Seoul citizens died by the roadside last year, according to a report from Seoul. This is an increase of 200 over the preceding year's figure. Most of them were farmers who quit their villages in search of jobs.

Rapes By American Missionary Bared

The public of Pusan in South Korea are demanding the deportation of an American missionary, who is charged with an attempt to rape a girl student.

A Donghua Tongshin report from Pusan said that Alex Bill of the Christian Broadcast Missionary Association in the city took a girl student to a hotel and attempted to rape her on Feb. 8.

The report said that the missionary had raped another girl working for broadcasting company here on March 14 of last year.

The Foreign Office of the Chang Myun government is trying hard to smother up the case, however, the report added.

Seoul Taxi Driver Robbed By GI

An American soldier threatened a taxi driver and robbed him of his earnings on Feb. 18, according to a "Tongyang Tongshin report from Seoul.

The taxi driver, Li Keun Su, complained to the police that an American soldier stopped his car in front of a hotel in Seoul, threatend him with a knife and robbed him of 6,000 huan in cash and his wrist watch.

Also in Seoul, a few days earlier, another American soldier robbed a Korean of about $40 and valuable things he had with him.

The report said that various kinds of crime committed by American soldiers are rapidly increasing in number in recent months.

GI Violates Korean Woman

An American soldier broke into a Korean woman's home in Kanung-Ri, Kyongki Province, on the night of Feb. 2, and violated her after beating and kicking her brutally, according to a report from Seoul.

The soldier, identified as Best, broke into her house after destroying the door, as the woman refused to open it, the report said.

The report added that Best belonged to the 55th Military Police Unit of the First U. S. Army Corps stationed in South Korea.

The U. S. Army authorities in South Korea were forced to disclose the fact, as the case caused a stir among the neighboring inhabitants of the woman.

Seoul citizens rally against "Economic Accord" and for a decent living.

S. Korean Employes Of U. S. Forces Rally

Some 3,000 employes of U.S. Forces in Korea on Feb. 19 clashed with policemen and several workers and policemen were injured, according to a report from Seoul. The clash occurred when hundreds of policemen armed with tear-gas rushed into the ranks of demonstrators who came up to the American Embassy, demanding better working conditions.

Those demostrators were representatives of the 12,000 Korean employes of U. S. Forces in Seoul, Bupyung, Paju and other districts of South Korea.

They rallied in the Seoul Station Square in the morning and presently launched a demonstration, chanting demands for wage increase and a retirement allowance system. But, the policemen, directed by the Chang Myun clique, assaulted the workers in order to suppress the justified demands of the employes.

Meanwhile, some 1,500 Pusan employes of U. S. Forces staged a demonstration on the afternoon of Feb. 20, chanting a five-point demand, a report from Pusan said.

The demonstrators marched through the streets, demanding wage increase, a retirement allowance system and a decent living.

Bank Employes Stage Hunger Strike

Employes of the "Agriculture Bank" in South Korea on Feb. 21 staged a hunger-strike in its head office in Seoul, protesting against the savage attacks by the Chang Myun clique on their trade union, according to a "Hapdong Tongshin" report from Seoul.

The hunger-strike was participated in by members of the "North Kyongsang Regional Trade Union of Agriculture Bank Employes" and by representatives of other trade unions in South Korea.

Before staging the hunger-strike, they organized a "Struggle Committee Against Unreasonable Personnel Change."

The "Agiculture Bank" authorities, attached to the puppet government, on Feb. 16 took measures to transfer all the union leaders to jobs in different places to destroy the trade union.

Meanwhile, the "North Kyongsang Regional Trade Union of Agriculture Bank Employes" is making preparations for a rally to take joint action with their fellow workers in Seoul, a Taegu broadcast said.

The Seoul employes organized a trade union several months ago and have been struggling for better living conditions and democratic rights.

Anti-America Posters Appear In Pusan

Two anti-American posters signed by a "League of Patriotic Youth" were found put up on the morning of Feb. 20 on the wall near the Cholyongdo Police Station in Pusan, according to a report from Pusan.

The posters read, "Go home, Yankees pillaging our people!," "Get out, Yankees obstructing unification of our fatheland!"

The police is reportedly mobilizing all the detectives to hunt for the "criminal."

TASKS OF HEAVY INDUSTRY IN 1961 IN DPRK

Ri Chong Ok, Vice-Premier and Chairman of the Heavy Industry Committee, made a report on the tasks of heavy industry in 1961 at the Conference of Enthusiastic Workers in Heavy Industry, according to a Feb. 13 report of the Korean Central News Agency from Pyongyang. The main points of the report are as follows:

◇All the toiling people, headed by our heroic working class, occupied the first hill of socialist construction last year through over-fulfilment of the targets set for the 1960 "Adjustment Period" and the First Five-Year Plan. Last year's total industrial output was 3.5 times in value that in 1956.

We can now produce in only 40 days a year's total industrial output in 1944, the year preceding Korea's Liberation from Japanese imperialist rule.

Last year's production plan for heavy industry was overfulfilled by 3.3 per cent and its output increased by 22 per cent compared with that in the previous year.

Thus, we have now the base of heavy industries powerful enough to construct modern factories and create new industrial branches when we need them, and to realize the prosperity of the fatherland and the flourishing of national culture.

◇This year we have started a glorious struggle for achieving the Seven-Year Plan to surmount a higher hill of socialist construction.

◇Above all, our heavy industry must positively support the farmers' struggle for the production of one million tons of grain by concentrating our strength on the mechanization of farming. This year we will supply the farmers with 4,000 tractors of the flying-horse 28 model, more than 5,000 light tractors, 4,500 lorries and tens of thousands of various coupling devices.

We must increase the production of nitrogenous and phosphorous fertilizers and supply farming villages with 600,000 tons of these fertilizers by the end of the first half of this year.

◇Our machine industry must supply fishermen, struggling for a total haul of 700,000 tons, with refrigeration processing mother-ships of the 3,000 tons class, 450-ton diesel boats and small and medium fishing boats.

The machine industry must also produce marine products processing equipments, various engines for powering sailing boats and fish shoal detectors and wireless apparatuses necessary for introducing scientific methods into fishing.

◇Our heavy industry must achieve the task of rapidly building chemical factories to establish a solid base of materials for light industries. We must produce in quantity synthetic fibre and resins, plastics, dyestuff and paints necessary for advancing the production of textile goods and daily necessaries. We must do our best continuously for constructing a vinyl manufacturing factory.

We must strengthen the base of the black metallurgical industry to meet the domestic demand for minerals. The construction of blast furnace No. 2 of Huanghae Iron Works and that of a thick steel rolling workshop at Sungjin Steel Works must be completed within this year. Also preparations should be made for starting construction work to expand Kim Chek Iron Works.

◇In the field of the electric power industry, we must consolidate hydro-electric-power stations, restore completely the existing steam power stations and concentrate our efforts on the construction of Kangke Water Porwer Station and the Unbong Water-Power Station, with generating capacity of 246, 000 and of 400,000 kw/h, respectively.

In the field of the coal mining industry, we must produce more coal by concentrating our energies on developing promising big coal deposits. It is of special importance to increase the production of super-heat coal and lump coal B.

The successful accomplishment of the first year program of the magnificent Seven-Year Plan has an important bearing on promoting the socialist industrialization of the country, improving the people's life and prompting peaceful unification of the fatherland. We must not be elated with victory even for a moment. Straining every nerve, we must march forward with conviction and courage.

Editorial

We Accuse Japanese Authorities Of Slanderous Remarks Against General Association

On Feb. 16, Yoshio Otani, a member of Liberal Democratic Party's Public Peace Committee, interpellated the government in Budget Committee of the House of Councilors in connection with the question of domestic public peace. In his interpellation, he made a statement, which created the impression that the Korean University in Tokyo should be taken up as a subject of investigation. Answering his interpellation, Ken Yasui, Chairman of the National Public Safety Commission, Minister of Justice Koshiro Ueki, said that the Korean University should be investigated, as it was run by the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, which, they said, was suspected of violating the Subversive Activities Prevention Law.

These questions and answers lay bare the Japanese authorities' plot to suppress the General Association.

Then, what is the background to their recent moves?

The successful progress of the repatriation work of Korean citizens in Japan to the DPRK with the support of the Japanese people and the rising movement of the Korean and the Japanese peoples against the "ROK"-Japan Talks!

The flare-up of anger among the Japanese people against the recent right-wing terrorism! Faced with this situation, the Japanese authorities have been forced to use the worn-out trick designed to poison the thinking of the Japanese people to turn them against the Korean people by creating the impression among the Japanese public that the General Association is a "terrorist organization."

As it is well known, however, the General Association, strictly basing itself on the foreign policy, followed by the Government of the DPRK, of peaceful coexistence among nations, has been making consistent efforts for peaceful unification of our fatherland, for protecting democratic national rights and for strengthening friendship among nations. This is why the General Association has always been supported by the broad sections of the Japanese people.

All the Korean citizens in Japan sharply condemn such heinous designs and strongly demand that the Japanese Government leaders concerned retract immediately and formally their vituperative statements.

We are confident that the peoples of the world in general, and the Japanese people in particular, will accuse the Japanese reactionaries of following a policy of hostility to the DPRK and of hatching plots of militarist aggression.

Koreans In Japan Commemorate March 1 Uprising

Numerous meetings were held in Japan by the Korean citizens in commemoration of the 42nd anniversary of the March 1 uprising in 1919.

Forty-two years ago the Korean people rose against the Japanese imperialists to throw off the yoke of colonial rule.

About 4,000 Korean people in Japan packed the Metropolitan Gymnasium in the city, hailing this day

The meeting adopted an appeal to South Koreans, emphasizing that in order to promote the peaceful unification of Korea, all political parties, social bodies and individuals should rise, demanding realization of South-North negotiation and interchange. A resolution addressed to the Ikeda Administration demanding immediate suspension of "ROK"-Japan Talks was also adopted.

Further, a protest cable was sent to U.S. President Kennedy, in the name of the meeting, demanding immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea.

Simchol Rhee, one of the vice-presidents of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, emphasized the significance of the memorial meeting in the following words:

Forty-two years ago, on this very day, the Korean people rose in an uprising against colonial rule by the Japanese imperialists and fought bravely against them with no weapons in their hands.

This uprising is a tradition that must be handed down to every Korean until the U.S. forces are forced out of South Korea. This is the only way to put an end to the division of our country."

Severely attacking the 'ROK'-Japan Talks, he pointed out that the talks would be an obstacle in the way of peaceful unification of Korea, as it is part of the plot to pave the way to the formation of a NEATO military bloc.

He stressed that the Chang Myun clique, closely allied with the former Japanese imperialists, were intending to sell out their country to Japan again.

Therefore, all the Korean people in Japan must tighten their ranks so as to help realize the unification, as early as possible, he added.

Further, he emphasized that the Korean people should strive so that their ancestors' blood may not be spilt in vain.

The meeting closed with a strong denunciation of the U.S. occupation of South Korea.

Korean citizens in Tokyo, in commemoration of the 42nd anniversary of the March 1 Uprising in 1919.

Japanese To Hold Rally Against "ROK"-Japan Talks

A large meeting of Japanese people demanding immediate stoppage of "ROK"-Japan Talks is scheduled for March 11 in Tokyo. Sponsors of the meeting said that the meeting would demand the Government immediately suspend "ROK"-Japan Talks. They explained that the talks would bring unfavorable results both to the Korean and the Japanese peoples, since it is clear that the talks are aimed at promoting the formation of a NEATO by the U. S. imperialists. They added such a military bloc is a serious threat to the peace of Asia and of the world.

The meeting is sponsored by the Liaison Council against "ROK"-Japan Talks, composed of 34 bodies, including Communist and Socialist parties, the General Council of Trade Unions (Sohyo), the Japan Peace Committee, the Federation of Women's Organizations and the Japan Congress of Journalists.

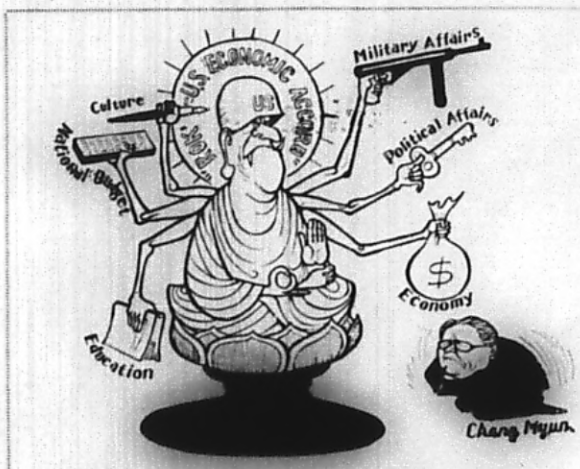
On Feb. 28, a national conference of Korea-Japan Friendship Society was held to discuss the question of how to develop movements against "ROK"-Japan Talks and in support of peaceful unification of Korea, linking them with the struggle against U.S.-Japan "Security" Treaty.

Meanwhile, joint struggle organizations against the "ROK"-Japan Talks have been formed in a number of prefectures, including Gumma, Aichi, Niigata, Saitama, Osaka and Hyogo.

Moreover, prefecture-level meetings against the talks have already been held in as many as 13 large cities, including Tokyo and Osaka.

Campaigns against the talks are being expanded in scale among the Japanese people who love peace and friendship among all nations of the world.

The Japanese people are fighting vigorously against the attempt of Japanese monopoly capitalists to invade S. Korea economically and to share colonial spoliation with the American imperialist plunderers.



The Almighty ruling over South Korea!

—Che Jun

S. Korea Under U. S. Occupation

OVER 90% OF WORKERS SHUT OUT OF JOBS

A South Korean jobless person—barely eking out a scanty existence.

Seoul Station, gateway to the so-called "free Republic of Korea" with 700,000 armed forces, the fourth largest army in the world!

This gateway to the "capital" is a noisy place crowded with prostitutes, pimps, pickpockets, sneaks, hoodlums and jobless persons.

Approximately 40,000 persons go in and out of this station every day. They are easy marks for these unblessed people. Pickpockets follow tanned country gentlemen. Around the Namdaimun, hoodlums threaten them. Pimps are on the watch for a chance to allure country girls and force them into prostitution.

In any bustling quarters, travelers are molested by a host of beggars.

On Myungdong Street which leads to Mt. Namsan from the Namdaimun, passers-by cannot walk freely, as they are followed by a noisy train of children begging for alms. Among them are five or six-year-olds.

About 387,000 families live in Seoul. They are classified as follows according to their living conditions.

Millionaire families 2,615
Rich families... about 40,000
Middle class families .....about 80,000
Poor families... about 100,000
Needy families...about 150,000

Jobless and needy families comprise about 70 per cent of the total families. Millionaires are mostly businessmen, government officials and politicians. Needy families include those of day laborers, jobless persons, stall keepers, pedlars and petty "brokers."

Here is another statistics published by the "Hankuk Kyongje Shinmun" of June 4, 1960, on the living conditions of the two million Seoul population. According to the statistics, 1,300,000 are persons without a regular occupation, such as wives, children, or students, and 700,000 are bread-winners. Included in the 700,000 are about 300,000 jobless and 130,000 casual laborers.

The newspaper concludes: "Judging from this statistics, Seoul should be called a city of the unemployed."

The South Korean Ministry of Health and Welfare estimates the number of street-walkers at 50,000 in Seoul alone.

Here is an example telling how desperately people are hunting for jobs.

On the morning of Feb. 16, young men drafted into the army gathered at the Namdaimun Primary School. Presently, the school building was thrown into confusion, as young jobless persons thronged there, begging the authorities to recruit them as "volunteers." But they were mercilessly dispersed by troopers and the U. S. military police.

This is only one of the many instances showing the miserable conditions of 6,600,000 jobless persons and of more than one million farming households lacking in food in South Korea. This is the reason why the U. S. can recruit enough men for the "National Army," the fourth largest in the world.

Enterprises in South Korea have been completely destroyed in the course of 16 years of colonization and plunder. In the Seoul-Inchun District in Kyong-Ki Province, the most important industrial area in South Korea, the operation of 90 per cent of the mining enterprises and of 80 per cent of manufacturing plants is now suspended, according to the "Saneup Kyongje Shinmun" of Jan. 7, 1961.

According to the "South Korean Statistical Year-Book," the number of workers and officials in enterprises employing more than five stood at only 204,985 at the end of 1959. South Korea has a population of 23 million.

Then, what is the situation of the workers who have been lucky enough to find jobs?

First of all, they cannot work regularly as their plants in most cases are not operated normally. Moreover, they are under constant fear of being fired, as their employers are in a position to replace them at any time with millions of jobless persons and destitute farmers.

The "Saneup Kyongje Shinmun" also reports that the monthly wages of workers at the "Tongbang Spinning Mill," average only 7,000—9,000 huan.

Laborers at "Samho Cotton-Mill," a representative one in South Korea, have to work for as long as 12 hours to get only 13,7000 huan a month and workers at "Tehan Cotton-Mill" to earn only 16,700 huan, according to "Hankuk Ilbo" of March 3, 1960.

According to the same paper, Pusan Port stevedores get only 10,000—20,000 huan, as their employers deduct 13—18 per cent from their wages as union dues, education tax, a tax at the source and "contributions" to team leaders. Even after the April people's uprising, the average income of workers does not exceed the 20,000 huan mark.

Last July, the "Economic Council" made a recommendation to the Huh Jung government on the salary of public officials. The council recommended the government to raise the monthly salary of the (lowest) fifth grade officials to 60,000 huan, that of fourth grade officials to 75,000 huan. The average monthly salary of primary shocol teachers is 48,500 huan.

This suffices to show how low workers' wages are, compared with that of officials and teachers. Moreover, as workers in mines or plants cannot receive their wages regularly, they are forced to sell their wage-tickets in advance at 70-90 per cent of their value.

Korean employes at a U.S. base in South Korea.

Then, how about the living cost of workers? According to the conservative statistics released by the "Bank of Republic of Korea," the living cost of workers in Seoul is 89,087 huan. (Monthly average for the July—Sept. period of 1960.)

Here are the realities of workers as reported by a South Korean newspaper. This investigation covers 575 workers selected at random from among 4,800 at five big textile plants in Taegu.

In these plants, the number of female workers is 4 times that of men. Almost all of these woman workers get only 10,000—20,000 huan a month.

The following is a salary ticket of a woman worker in one of these plants who receives a comparatively high wage.

Basic salary	9,680 huan	(deductions)	
Allowance for legal holiday	3,080. 〃	Income tax	800 huan
Overtime pay	4,868 〃	Education tax	800 〃
Midnight pay	2,503 〃	Meals	7,200 〃
Holiday-working pay	660 〃	Medical fee	115 〃
Sunday-working pay	440 〃	Total	8,915 〃
Pay for meals	4,800 〃	Take-home pay	(17,761 〃)
Other allowances	645 〃		
Total	26,676 huan	Total	26,676 huan

Even this comparatively high-salaried worker earn a basic salary of no more than 10,000 huan. It is obvious that allowances are "incentives" aimed at forcing workers to work overtime.

Since basic wages are low, workers are forced to prolong their working hours to increase their take-home pay as much as possible in the form of allowances.

Workers are on two 12-hour shifts changing 7 a. m.

Then, how about the working conditions in these plants? The paper reports: "The air in the plant is terribly dusty. It is so badly ventilated as to be filled with odour and clouds of dust.

"Workers there said that in summer many woman workers fall into a swoon. They demanded the employer improve sanitation facilities.

"Only hothouses and flower-beds are beautifully kept at any plants. It is an attempt on the part of employers to show off their vanity and to conceal the slavish working conditions at their plants. At none of the factories, workers had a collective agreement with their employers. Of all the workers at the factories, 65 per cent complained that their health had been deteriorating since they began to work there, 30 per cent said that they were as healthy as they had been before, while only 5 per cent were glad that they were healthier than before."

Moreover, South Korean workers face constantly the danger of being killed or injured by accidents at work. At the workshops of the "'ROK' Coal Mining Public Cooperation," 10,498 were killed or injured by accidents during three years following the end of the Korean war. But there is no place to go to complain about their miserable conditions and submit their grievances.

On this point let's quote, as an example, the "Saneup Kyongje Shinmun" of Oct. 26, 1960:

"At the Holy Mother Hospital in Myungdong in Seoul, a patient stabbed a doctor, seriously injuring him. The patient was a worker at a coal mine in Kangwon Province. He had been hospitalized there a month before to receive treatment for the injury in the face caused by an explosion in the mine. The stabbing occurred when the doctor refused to examine him for the reason that he was in arrears of payment of medical fees amounting to 7,500 huan.

In order to get out of these miserable conditions, South Korean workers are heroically fighting for a new life and a new system as well as for economic exchange between North and South Korea and peaceful unification of the fatherland.

Jobless persons in South Korea—in search for jobs.

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